

The Brooklyn Paper

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SLUDGE MATCH

Red Hook activists battle concrete titan over landfill plan



Red Hookers working under the name “No Toxic Red Hook” are battling a plan to turn sludge from the Gowanus Canal into a concrete landmass off the neighborhood’s shore.

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

A group of Red Hookers have made it crystal clear that they don’t want the federal government to store the sludge dredged from the toxic Gowanus Canal on their waterfront.

Residents working under the name “No Toxic Red Hook” are petitioning against a plan under consideration by the Environmental Protection Agency that would decontaminate some of the muck and use it to build a giant landmass on concrete tycoon John Quadrozzi’s property at the foot of Columbia Street as part of the agency’s half-billion dollar Superfund cleanup of the fetid waterway.

The feds claim it would be safe to construct a “confined disposal facility” that would turn the sludge into concrete and use it to permanently build out the waterfront at the Gowanus Bay Terminal



and Gowanus Industrial Park, but neighbors are worried about their health, the risk of flooding, and the effects the operation would have on Red Hook’s bustling ball fields and pool.

“The community does not want to create more land from this contaminated sludge adjacent to one of the most heavily

used recreation areas in New York City,” activists wrote on the online petition posted in March in a last push before the feds close the public commentary period later this month.

The Red Hook activists say they don’t oppose the polluter-funded cleanup of the waterway — just the proposal to process sludge in their community.

“This is almost the worst thing I can imagine for this neighborhood,” said Red Hook mom Carly Yates, a founder of No Toxic Red Hook who is worried about air pollution and fears that the site could become a permanent plant for treating toxic waste. “It’s disturbing — I don’t think that I can raise my daughter here if it were to be built.”

The sludge used to construct the landmass would be dredged from the least contaminated area of the canal. See **SLUDGE** on page 4



Owen Foote, a co-founder of the Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club, is helping organize a boat race on the Gowanus Canal on June 15.

Good to row

Gowanus to host a boat race

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Everyone is a winner at this boat race — so long as you don’t get wet.

The toxic Gowanus Canal is the course for an upcoming non-motorized watercraft competition open to canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, and rowboats of all sizes.

Dubbed the “Gowanus Challenge,” the June jaunt will feature 2.5 miles of action on the foul-smelling waterway,

which is laden with hazardous heavy metals, raw sewage, cancer-causing chemicals, and even gonorrhea — warranting a federal cleanup with a price tag of half a billion dollars.

“This is the first race that begins and ends on a Superfund site,” said Owen Foote, a founding member of the Gowanus Dredgers Canoe Club, which organized the race.

Members of the Gowanus Dredgers have been racing each other on the canal for years. See **BOATS** on page 2

Night bazaar fight

Neighbors: Gowanus party plan a nightmare

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Some Carroll Gardeners are itching to shake off Brooklyn’s latest flea before it starts keeping them up all

night long.

Residents living near the Gowanus Canal are demanding a plan to bring a late-night market-style festival and concert series to a concrete plant on the

banks of Lavender Lake this summer be stopped in its tracks so they can get a good night’s sleep.

“This site is opposite residential areas,” said one neighbor. See **NIGHT** on page 4



Past events from Brooklyn Night Bazaar included a pig roast.



State Sen. Diane Savino is pushing to legalize medical marijuana.

By Colin Mixson
The Brooklyn Paper

Marijuana may hurt short-term memory, but a keen awareness of recent history could help a Brooklyn lawmaker finally get a medical marijuana law passed in Albany.

Even though three previous attempts to bring patients prescription pot have

gone up in smoke, state Sen. Diane Savino (D–Coney Island) is confident her more tightly written new bill will blunt the opposition that burned earlier proposals in the Senate.

“The original bills that were introduced and passed in the assembly originally talked about allowing patients, caregivers, and hospitals to

grow small amounts of marijuana on site,” said Savino, who is sponsoring her first medical marijuana bill. “That’s not a realistic way to deal with medical marijuana, and one of the things that’s beneficial to New York is we have the experience of several other states that have their own programs. So, we’ve been able to reject some of

the worst practices and embrace some of the best ones, so we have the tightest bill possible.”

Cannabis is currently available to patients in 18 states and the District of Columbia, while Colorado and Washington states recently legalized the euphoria-inducing herb completely.

Savino and her co-sponsor Assem-

blyman Richard Gottfried (D–Manhattan), however, want to assure their colleagues that unlike the earlier, half-baked proposals, this bill would not turn New York into California, where the proliferation of prescription pot providers has drawn local complaints as well as raids by the feds. In fact, many of the bills have failed. See **POT** on page 2

Local pol: Pass my legal marijuana bill



Traffic safety group Bay Ridge Advocates for Keeping Everybody Safe protested State Sen. Marty Golden’s opposition to speed cameras outside his office on April 5.

Ridge’s street fight

Golden slammed for blocking camera plan

By Will Bredderman
The Brooklyn Paper

These Ridge residents want state Sen. Marty Golden to smile for the cameras.

Over 20 Bay Ridge residents rallied outside Golden’s Fifth Avenue office on April 5 to pro-

test the pol’s opposition to a pilot program that would install 40 speed cameras — which photograph the license plates of speeders and automatically send them tickets — at select intersections around the city.

The protestors were mem-

bers of a pro-traffic-control group called Bay Ridge Advocates for Keeping Everybody Safe, and argued that the cameras would cure the epidemic of car-pedestrian collisions plaguing the neighborhood — which

See **RIDGE** on page 8

Sparkle shop

Swarovski heads to Fulton Mall

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

Downtown will really shimmer once the crystal sellers at Swarovski open their new boutique on the Fulton Mall this month.

The Austrian jewelry brand will bring its wares to the corner of Bond Street, right below a new Raymour and Flanigan furniture store, marking another chain arrival on the increasingly shopping mall-like thoroughfare.

“Swarovski’s move into Brooklyn is a natural step for our brand,” said John Heidt, a Swarovski executive, in a statement. “Downtown Brooklyn’s revitalization has made the area extremely attractive and lucrative to major brands, like Swarovski.”

Global retailers including Express, Gap, Aeropostale, Aldo, and Armani Exchange have opened outposts on the Fulton Mall, sparking a high-speed transformation for the Main Street of black America.

TJ Maxx and Century 21 are slated to arrive on the shopping strip as well, harkening a poten-



The jewelers at Swarovski are coming to the Fulton Mall.

tial return to the street’s era as a department shopping hub.

Swarovski has another borough location at the Kings Plaza mall.



Candidate Antonio Reynoso is positioning himself as a champion of good schooling and equitable housing, and someone whose name is not Vito Lopez.

Taking on Vito

Council hopeful battles Lopez — who’s not yet a candidate

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

Council hopeful Antonio Reynoso has a clear path to City Hall, so long as the formidable foe he is currently shad-

owboxing — embattled assemblyman and rumored candidate Vito Lopez — doesn’t set foot in the ring.

Reynoso is spending much more on his campaign. See **REYNOSO** on page 8

LUCKY DOGS!

Participatory budget to build Williamsburg a pooch park

By Danielle Furfaro
The Brooklyn Paper

It will soon be a dog’s life on the banks of the East River, thanks to 729 ballot-casting Brooklynites.

A pup run in East River State Park was one of five projects voters endorsed in North Brooklyn in this year’s participatory budget process, an increasingly popular and refreshingly democratic initiative by some councilmembers to determine how to divvy up funding in their districts.

The dog run, which will cost \$450,000, will be the only place

ANOTHER BALLOT WINNER: SCHOOL TOILETS! SEE PAGE 3

in Williamsburg south of McCarrren Park where pet owner can legally let their pups run free, said Mark Sallinger, a committee member on the Friends of East River State Park, which proposed the pooch park.

“The number of dogs in Williamsburg is growing. See **DOG** on page 3



Imagine this beautiful scene — with dogs. East River State Park will get a dog run, thanks to a ballot initiative.

Ch-ch-ch-changes

Bowie now prez of Heights Association

By Jaime Lutz
The Brooklyn Paper

She’s under pressure. Alexandra Bowie — a freelance grant writer, fiction writer, blogger, mother, and wife — is now the new president of the neighborhood watchdog group the Brooklyn Heights Association.

The newly elected neighborhood activist will replace Jane McGroarty as the association rallies to oppose the likely shutdown of Long Island College Hospital, prepares to host a mayoral forum, and tries to influence the direction of the Brooklyn Public Library’s new planned



Alexandra Bowie

Brooklyn Heights branch and the development of Brooklyn Bridge Park.

In other words, she has gotten rather busy lately.

If all of that wasn’t enough, Bowie is also trying to garner neighborhood support to make Brooklyn Heights a “slow zone” — reducing the speed limit from 30 to 20 miles per hour.

The last initiative may be closest to Bowie’s heart — she was friends with fellow Heights Association executive board member Martha Atwater, who was killed when a truck jumped the curb at the intersection of Clinton and Atlantic avenues in February.

But to get the city to make the community a slow zone, Bowie needs to prove that it’s worth it. See **BOWIE** on page 8

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OUR BROOKLYN NETS COVERAGE

Smaller ballers must play big

The little guys need to step it in the playoffs

I spent the season quietly observing my counterpart's analysis of the Nets' struggling back court, but with the playoffs looming, this big man can be quiet no more. Here is what all the little people must do to help Brooklyn win when it counts.

Fans have waited all season for Deron Williams, Joe Johnson, and Gerald Wallace to look like their former selves. And while Williams has finally started playing like the star he is paid to be, Brooklynites can only hope the few remaining games are just enough for Johnson to get fully healthy and Wallace to get out of his own head.

The Nets snagged a postseason berth, but this team is not exactly where it wants to be. Sure, Brooklyn is poised to get home-court advantage in the first round of the playoffs, but what happens once we get there? The Bulls, the likely first-round opponent, came into our Barclays Center backyard without five rotation players and found a way to leave with a W, raising the team's record to 3-1 against the Nets this season.

As if that wasn't bad enough,

The Nets will be in a good spot when Joe Johnson can smile while making this move.

Wallace, whose lackluster offensive game has left Nets fans quoting "The Wire" character D'Angelo Barksdale all season ("Where's Wallace at?") told the New York Post this week that his confidence is "to-

Our little guy's playoff wishlist

The Great Brooklyn Nets Front Court Experiment of 2013 has ended more or less where it started.

For months, I have watched my taller colleague chronicle the tinkering of Nets coach P.J. Carlesimo with Brooklyn's big guys. First, Peej told professional handsome dude Kris Humphries to take a seat and give three-happy Mirza Teletovic a chance to spice up the offense with his outside shooting.

When that didn't pay dividends, Carlesimo said he would explore putting Andray Blatche and Brook Lopez — Brooklyn's tallest and most efficient scorers — on the floor at the same time. Yet, by this week, the pair had only shared the hardwood for 89 minutes.

playoff wishes for Brooklyn's front court:

Reggie Evans continues to play like a man possessed by the spirit of Dennis Rodman: Whether a basketball player can be possessed by the spirit of a person who is still alive is debatable, but it's tough to prove the Worm's recent North Korea excursion wasn't part of an extended "Weekend At Bernie's" scenario. Evans has led the league in rebounds in March and April, and has tapped into a semblance of offensive game that has eluded him for much of his pro career. For all those boards, though, the scrapper still doesn't do much to protect the paint defensively, recording only four blocks in 421 minutes in March.

Andray Blatche takes care of the rock: A after seven seasons marked by boneheadedness on and off the court, Blatche has assembled a comeback worthy of a Hollywood script -- assuming you wrote around that time back in January when a woman was allegedly sexually assaulted by a fellow partier in the ballplayer's Philadelphia hotel suite at 3:30 am the

Islanders break ice in Sept.

By Moses Jefferson
The Brooklyn Paper

Ice to meet you, Brooklyn!

The borough will have its first face-off with big league hockey when the Islanders play a preseason game at the Barclays Center on Sept. 21, team officials announced on Tuesday.

The club, which is slated to relocate to the Rust Bowl on Atlantic Avenue in 2015, will enjoy a Brooklyn debut by taking the ice for a 7 pm match against the hated New Jersey Devils.

Alas, the game is just a one-timer until the Islanders formally move to Brooklyn in two years — but it's a chance to win fans on the western-most tip of Long Island, team officials say.

"I'm excited for our fans to bring that energy and have the ability to enjoy an Islanders game while taking advantage of the world class amenities at Barclays Center, that stand above and beyond what any other arena provides," said the aptly named Islanders general manager Garth Snow. "This preseason game will be their first opportunity to do so."

The Islanders and team owner Charles Wang are happy to make a breakaway from the asbestos-riddled Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum, and enthusiastic about their new digs at the Barclays Center, which will be the smallest arena in the National Hockey League, accommodating just 14,500 fans in a horseshoe-style configuration without seats behind one goal.

And Barclays Center brass is thrilled to find a new roommate for the Nets, a basketball team that debuted at the arena this season.

"There's a lot of excitement about professional hockey bound for Brooklyn, where the Islanders have a terrific opportunity to grow their fan base and build their brand," said arena chief executive officer Brett Yorkmark.

BOATS...

Continued from page 1

canal for years, but this is the first time the pro-watersports group has challenged other boating organizations to test their speed. The course will start at the Dredgers's dock on Second Street, go all the way to the mouth of the canal near the Gowanus Bay, and loop back to the dock for the big finish, said Foote.

Boathouses across international waters have even expressed interest in the race, which will serve as a fundraiser to support the group's work bringing free waterborne recreational activities to the city.

As such, each team must raise \$500 from pledgers and sponsors to compete, but squads can consist of however many people fit into the crew's vessel of choice.

POT LAW...

Continued from page 1

the stipulations in Savino's bill were specifically written to mellow out the fears that have kept Albany lawmakers from approving medical marijuana in the past.

"We're not going to be California," said Savino. "What you don't want is a very loose program, because that's what invites the feds to come in. The US Attorneys are very ambitious, they see opportunities and they'll go after that. The way to avoid that is to have a very tight model."

For one thing, patients will have to complain about more than chronic back pain to get a prescription for pot. To weed out fakers, the bill stipulates that doctors will only be able to dole out cannabis to people suffering "severe, debilitating, or life threatening conditions," according to Michael Sogut, a spokesman for Gottfried.

"The first concern we've heard is the definition of what marijuana can be used to treat, and in this bill it's written that pot can only be prescribed to treat severe, debilitating, or life-threatening conditions," said Sogut. "That includes conditions like cancer, Parkinson's, AIDS — and the commissioner of health would have discretion to determine what is and is not appropriate."

Furthermore, the new bill mandates that every plant must be tracked and tagged from the time it is planted to the point of sale, making sure that the state's legal pot won't worm its way into the black market.

"This bill is based on the seed to sale model," Savino explained. "Every client has a bar code, we will know every plant that exists, every patient, and every leaf that gets sold."

Another saving grace of the bill is that half of the proceeds generated in towns where the marijuana is produced or distributed will go back to the local government, meaning that the budding weed industry will subsidize the extra cost of law enforcement that lawmakers predict will occur in such localities.

"There were concerns that legalizing this would increase needs for law enforcement, which would fall on the localities," said Sogut. "So, half the revenue generated would be shared with the locality

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Don't lend your phone to guy with the knife

84TH PRECINCT
Brooklyn Heights–DUMBO–Boerum Hill–Downtown
A man asked to borrow a cellphone from a man waiting for the R train in the Pacific Street subway station on April 3 — and then never returned it.
The victim was waiting for the train at the station near Atlantic Avenue at 9:15 am when the perp asked to borrow the phone, saying that he could see the outline of it in the victim's pants.
Out of fear, the man lent the phone to the thief, who then walked to the 2 and 3 train line.
The victim followed the perp onto the southbound 3 train, continuing to ask for his phone back — even saying that he'd give the thief \$5 for it.
The thief then told the man that he had a knife.
Train scuffle
A brute grabbed another man by the throat and slammed him into the subway window while riding the northbound N train near Pacific Street on April 4, police report.
The victim and perp got into a scuffle aboard the train, and when it stopped at the Pacific Street stop at 6:05 am, the perp fled and the victim was taken to Brooklyn Hospital.
Rude intruder
A 17-year-old woman was cuffed for entering a high school on Johnson Street without permission on April 5, police said.
The girl entered the school near Jay Street at 2:04 pm, where she was stopped by police, who asked her to leave. Police say she refused, wouldn't provide identification to the officer. The young woman then resisted leaving, punching and biting a police officer, cops reported.
Tourist trap
Someone stole an iPhone, wallet, and \$200 from a sleeping man on a Coney Island-bound N train on April 4.
The victim, who was visiting New York from Washington State, told police he boarded the train at Times Square, and woke up near the Pacific Street station at 10 pm, and realized his belongings were gone.
Cashless cab
A thief stole \$20 that fell out of the pocket of a woman waiting for a cab on Willoughby Street on April 4.

The woman and crook got into an argument at 5:51 pm near Lawrence Street, and when the cash fell out, the perp grabbed it and ran, she told police.

Bus attack

A thug repeatedly punched a woman in the face while riding a bus on Jay Street on April 5, police said.

The victim said she was riding the bus near Fulton Street at 1:15 pm when the goon attacked, and ran off with her cellphone.

I'll learn you

A 40-year-old man was cuffed for hitting a man with a textbook on Jay Street on April 3, police said.

The victim was near Fulton Street at 2 am when the suspect struck him with the book, and also punched him in the face, police said.

What furniture?

Someone stole an Apple laptop from a swanky furniture store on Main Street on April 3, police said.

The thief left the store near Water Street with the gadget at 4 am.

— **Jaime Lutz**

78TH PRECINCT
Park Slope
Tipsy-turvy
A band of brutal attackers beat a slightly intoxicated man as he exited a Fifth Avenue diner on April 1, cops said.
The 27-year-old victim told police that he was on his way home from the establishment near Ninth Street at 5 am.
He asked two men on the street for a cigarette and when the criminals noticed that the victim had been drinking, they started to punch him in the face and kick him.
Three other perps, who were watching from inside the diner, then ran out and joined in the bashing.
“Keep going m-----,” yelled one of the villains as two of them rummaged through the victim's pants and coat pockets for valuables.
The criminals made off with a credit card, driver's license, school identification card, and MetroCard.
Two of the perps fled the scene in a black sedan, as did the other three in a dark-colored sedan, police said.
Bag gone
Someone stole a teacher's wallet while she was working at an Eighth Avenue private elementary school on April 7.

The 50-year-old educator told police that she left her bag in the library of the building near Seventh Street while she was instructing a class of kids at 11 am.

When the teacher went to fetch her pocketbook an hour and 15 minutes later, her Prada wallet — holding \$254 and her credit and debit cards — was missing.

Good as gone

Someone looted at least \$10,000 from a Fourth Avenue bodega on April 2.

The 59-year-old owner of the store told cops that his one employee working at his establishment that day closed up the shop later that night.

When the proprietor returned to the store the next day at 9:30 am he noticed that the hefty sum of cash was missing and suspected that his employee did the job.

The owner went to the worker's house, but he wasn't there, according to police.

Drink and steal

A burglar broke into a Seventh Avenue apartment, drank a glass of wine, and made off with a bicycle sometime overnight between March 30 and 31.

The 44-year-old victim told police he left his abode between 13th and 14th streets at 8 pm on the 30th and returned the next day at noon, when he found a full glass of wine he left out emptied, and the bike missing.

Police suspect burglar got in through a back window.

Down and out

A violent criminal punched a man in the face multiple times on Park Place on April 2.

The 29-year-old victim told cops that he was walking between Seventh and Sixth avenues when the miscreant ran up to him and decked him at 11 pm.

“You have five seconds to give me all you got or I'm going to kill you,” said the felon, according to cops.

The man said he didn't have anything to give and the baseball hat-wearing perp fled without anything.

Busted

Cops collared a man who allegedly swiped two MacBook Pros and their chargers from a Fifth Avenue MacBook repair shop on April 6.

A proprietor told cops that the 49-year-old suspect broke the lock at the establishment between Lincoln and Berke-

POLICE BLOTTER
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ley places just minutes before 5 am.

Surveillance video shows the white-glove-wearing criminal swipe the electronics, according to police.

Register rob

A crook stole the cash register from a Seventh Avenue restaurant on April 2.

The owner of the establishment told police that he locked up the joint near Eighth Street at 2 am and when he returned at 8:30 am he noticed that the crook had removed the locked cylinder on the front door of the eatery.

Surveillance cameras show the criminal bust into the eatery at 2:50 am and leave with the cash register containing \$100 about 20 minutes later. He fled down Eighth Street, according to cops.

Ch-ch-change

A thief burglarized a St. Marks Place apartment and got away with a bunch of electronics — and \$300 in gänge — on April 4.

The 43- and 52-year-old roommates told police that they were both not at their abode between Fourth and Fifth avenues from 5 pm to 10 pm.

When they returned home they noticed that their front door was forced opened and their Apple laptop, two iPads, two cameras, and \$300 in quarters were gone.

— **Natalie Musumeci**

68TH PRECINCT
Bay Ridge–Dyker Heights
Food on-the-run
A perp stole an idling car while the driver was ordering from a popular halal cart on 86th Street on April 6, police report.
The victim said he left the motor running in his Beamer near Fifth Avenue at 1:15 am while he got out to pick up food at the wagon.
The gyro trailer's security cameras show an unknown punk jumping into the unlocked car five minutes later and speeding off toward Fourth Avenue.
Shoptifted
A crook busted into two cars in the parking lot of a supermarket on 66th Street on April 7 and made off with

thousands in loot while the owners were inside the store, police say.

Both victims told cops they went into the grocery near Fort Hamilton Parkway at 6 pm and came out 15 minutes later.

One found her vehicle broken into and her Coach bag with \$350 inside gone. The other had her pocketbook with \$30 and her iPhone taken. Police say there are no cameras in the area.

Fired up

A thief broke into a minivan in an Eighth Avenue parking lot and ripped off a pair of fire extinguishers — plus the radio and global positioning system — from inside the vehicle sometime overnight on April 6, according to cops.

The victim reported that he left the vehicle in the parking area near the corner of 63rd Street at 11:30 pm, and came back at 9 am the next day to find the two retardant pumps and electronic gadgets gone.

Padded down

Two lowlives lifted an iPad from a Third Avenue grocery store on April 7, cops claim.

The store owner said he had his gadget out on the counter when the pair of perps walked into the shop between 86th and 87th streets at 10:28 am.

When the dastardly duo walked out two minutes later, the businessman realized the high-tech device was gone.

Logged out

A burglar pillaged a 75th Street apartment and plundered a laptop and modem from within on April 6, police state.

The victim said she left her home between Ridge Boulevard and Colonial Road at 6 pm and returned at 7:15 pm to find her electronics jacked.

— **Will Bredderman**

94TH PRECINCT
Greenpoint–Northside
Not neighborly
A man allegedly robbed his neighbor in the front vestibule of their Metropolitan Avenue apartments on April 5.

strike his hand.

Witnesses in the area said they believe that it was shot from a BB gun, but there were no cameras and police could not find a suspect.

Beating delivered

A pair of thugs beat and robbed a delivery man after letting him into a S. First Street apartment building on April 7.

The victim told police that he was delivering a large quantity of food to an apartment between Marcy Avenue and Havemeyer Street at 2:15 am when a pair of men opened the door to let him into the lobby, and then attacked him from behind.

The victim said the robbers hit him three or four times in the back in the head and he fell to the floor.

The robbers then put their hands in his back pockets and took \$80 in cash, along with the food.

Broken promise

A con tricked a man out of \$1,333.50 in exchange for keys to a Brooklyn apartment on April 5.

The 33-year-old victim, who lives on Manhattan Avenue between McKibben and Seigel streets, told police that he replied to an ad on Craig-

slist at 11:30 am, and the real estate agent told him to send the money Western Union to a man name David in Nigeria in exchange for keys.

He sent the money, but the keys never came.

Midnight rob

A woman stuck a gun in another woman's back and stole her to cellphones and other property on Marcy Avenue on April 7.

The victim told police she was near S. Fourth Street at midnight when the woman, who was wearing a blue bandanna over her face, stuck a gun in her back and took her iPhone, BlackBerry, driver's license, work identification, credit card, airport identification, and \$40 cash.

Dancing danger

Someone took the contents of a man's jacket at a Hooper Street bar on April 5 while he was busy dancing.

The victim told police that left his jacket on a hook in the corner while he danced at the watering hole between S. Fifth Street and Broadway.

When he grabbed his jacket at 11 pm, his credit card, MetroCard, French identification, building badge, and \$600 missing.

— **Danielle Furfaro**

SLUDGE...

Continued from page 1

inated section of the canal-bed, which is south of Hamilton Avenue, moved by barge, and treated to remove hazardous toxins that may include coal tar and heavy metals, eliminating any health risks, feds claim.

“The materials would be rendered non-toxic and there would be a protective wall around the area where the materials would be placed,” said Superfund project manager Christos Tsiamis, who credits himself with coming up with on-site disposal option that he claims will shave \$37 million from the project and create between 30 and 60 jobs over six years.

Workers would de-water the grime on Quadrozzi's property, mix it with cement-like materials, and store it as stabilized concrete inside a bathtub-like fixture made of reinforced steel that would be buried in the Gowanus Bay and connected to his industrial complex.

Once the project is over, Quadrozzi can do what he wants with the land as long as he complies with certain federal guidelines.

Neighbors have blasted the plan due to reports the concrete titan owes hefty fees for illegally dumping into the Gowanus Bay — but Quadrozzi claims he does not face any fines and has paid off a settlement of \$60,000 to the state several years ago after a dock collapsed and released sand, or what the state calls “plumage,” into the bay.

Quadrozzi alleges com-

munity activists are trying to undermine a safe and cost-effective clean-up proposal by pushing a petition that is laden with lies and wrongly refers to the “confined disposal facility” as a “contaminated disposal facility.”

“It's intentionally misleading to scare the community into thinking that there would be no logical or beneficial reason to support this other than to create some land for some guy to do what he wants,” he said. “Anybody would read it and say of course I'm against this.”

The feds still have the option of shipping all of the sludge off-site to a licensed treatment facility if there is large community opposition to the construction of the concrete landfill by the end of the public commentary period, Tsiamis said at numerous public meetings. The state also has a say in the matter, according to agency officials.

The finalized plan for the cleanup of the canal will be released by the summer.

As of press time, the petition has 336 signatures.

The agency will accept written and public comments on the proposal until April 27. E-mail gowanuscanalcomments.region2@epa.gov or write to: Christos Tsiamis, project manager

Central New York Remediation Section

US Environmental Protection Agency

290 Broadway, 20th floor

New York, NY 10007-1866

NIGHT...

Continued from page 1

streets, houses and apartment buildings, and will cause disturbances all night long,” the Coalition for Carroll Gardens wrote in an online petition that had 41 signatures as of press time.

But concrete maven John Quadrozzi, Jr., who owns the site on Huntington Street between Smith Street and the canal, says his lease with the creators of the Brooklyn Night Bazaar — popular markets inspired by those found in Asian cities boasting an array of food vendors, merchants, live music, DJs, dancing, a beer and wine garden, pig roasts, games, arts, and thousands of shoppers — will be a boon to the area.

“I think it's a nice public event for people to enjoy themselves,” said Quadrozzi. “It's another outlet to enhance the neighborhood.”

The flea market will run every Friday and Saturday night from June through the end of September, said Quadrozzi, who said that he will officially lease the entire city-block-sized lot to flea market impresario Aaron Broudo after the contract

is drawn up in the coming days.

But activists who got wind of the plan after Community Board 6 was notified that Broudo submitted an application for a seasonal liquor license for wine and beer only to the State Liquor Authority are ready for a fight.

“There will be significant community pushback on this,” said Steven Miller, chair of the Coalition for Carroll Gardens, who is urging neighbors to protest the pop-up marketplace.

Broudo did not return calls or e-mails as of press time.

It's not the first time one of Broudo's pop-up flea markets has caused an outcry.

Greenpoint residents and politicians, including Councilman Steve Levin (D-Greenpoint), successfully halted his proposed bazaar from coming to that neighborhood's waterfront two years ago.

Community Board 6's permits and licenses committee is scheduled to vote on Broudo's application for a liquor license on April 22. The full will vote on it next month.

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The lesson of Big Sur

I always look for metaphors that will help me teach my kids the hard lessons that are sometimes a challenge to get through their heads. Adventurous trips almost always provide these, and this spring break the California coast did not disappoint.

There we were, back in the trees behind Highway 1 in Big Sur, wending our way between the redwoods on the Valley View Trail in Pfeiffer State Park, going straight up to something, we weren't quite sure what. After a mile or so of the 3.4 mile loop we hadn't realized was quite so steep, Oscar sat down.

“I don't want to do it,” he said. “I'm tired. And bored.”

I grimly recalled another hike where I'd waited with Osc making fairy houses out of moss and bark while Big G and Eli went ahead to see the view. I didn't relish that happening again. I wanted to move forward, not back. He was older now, and fully capable. So I didn't stop.

“Come on,” I said. “It's a loop. You have to go up to come down.”

Fearless Parenting
By Stephanie Thompson

Of course, this was a slight mistruth. We could have gone right back the way we'd come. So I amended.

“It's more fun not to go back the same way we came up. Come on.”

Mercifully, the boy stood up and trudged forward. His father generously agreed to carry him a bit, and then he held my hand, letting me pull him like a tow rope. Fun. When he made it all the way up, he stood proudly with his brother in the strange sunny dirt ridge of the apex.

“You did it!” I said as my sister and I caught up. His energy had surged toward the top, while ours had waned.

Oscar stuck out his tongue at me, as he is wont to do when praised. And that was the last I saw of him for a while. Along

with his brother and Big G, who felt it best to follow, he ran at high speed all the way down — except for the parts (they told me later) where they went off-trail to scale down the slippery rocky mountainside.

They'd waded in the lake, reveled in the sun on a rock. They probably made it in half my time.

“Good job guys!” I reiterated when finally we reunited by the big hollowed-out redwood.

Upon our return to Brooklyn, thinking I could use the “things aren't so hard as they seem” logic I'd believed the hike had raised up in order to wake Osc up post red-eye to do homework, I prompted him.

“Wasn't the hike fun?”

Oscar shook his head.

“No,” he said. His defiant

tone said he hadn't changed his position and he wasn't just going to lie to please me.

“Climbing up wasn't fun *at all*,” he said. He paused for a moment, as if that's all there was to the story, then added nonchalantly, as if it was an afterthought:

“But the running down was *really* fun!” He smiled just recalling it.

“Yes. But you couldn't run down if you hadn't climbed up, now could you, smarty?”

He wasn't really paying me his full attention except to shoot me with his laser tag gun. So I said it even more clearly, the Lesson of Big Sur:

“Sometimes you have to do something you don't like in order to get to do something you love,” I said, loud and clear. “That, my friend, is life.”

I'm sure he heard me through his burping of the ABCs. I'm positive. And I'm not at all worried. I imagine I'll repeat that vacation teaching moment a million times.

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A multiplayer bar

Soccer fans, gamers battle it out in Williamsburg pub

By Sol Park
The Brooklyn Paper

Get drunk, grab a controller, and get rowdy. A Williamsburg bar is hosting weekly game nights where patrons can sign up for some competitive soccer on the Xbox 360 and the Playstation 3 gaming consoles.

But you don't have to love what Europeans call "football" to have a great time. Eric Kingrea, who started the game nights, certainly didn't.

"The way I got into soccer was through [the video game]," he said. "I'm from the South and soccer is kind of a communist sport down there."

After he and his roommate Daniel Katzman immersed themselves in the virtual world of slide tackles and yellow cards, Kingrea started to follow soccer in real life, learning who the stars of the game were, especially during the World Cup. Eventually, he approached the owners of an actual bar that shows actual soccer matches on weekends about starting a regular soccer video game night featuring Electronic Arts' "FIFA 13."

Co-owner of the bar Banter, Chris Keller, not only thought this was a good idea — the place already had an Xbox 360.

"We did a tournament a year ago," said Keller, "Hopefully [these weekly game nights] lead to a league."

Keller and Kingrea both hope what is currently about 20 to 30 people signing up on Tuesday nights to test each other's skills will become a tournament, with beer sponsorship, sometime in May.

And while playing video games at a sports bar seems like it might incite regulars to shout for real professional athletes on the screen, Kingrea says the visual effects of "FIFA 13" are stunningly realistic. So much so, playing soccer on the Playstation has skewed his relationship with the actual game of soccer.

"I'll watch a Red Bulls game and international games and I'll be screaming at the players, 'Triangle button!'" he said, referring to what is the button for a



FIFA-dom: Eric Kingrea and his Playstation 3 have transformed the Williamsburg bar Banter into a soccer video game hang-out spot on Tuesdays.

through ball pass.

"It gets you a very strange idea of the game."

And it's not just Kingrea who's losing his grip on reality — and enjoying it. Other regulars at the bar find the video game to be a redemptive and cathartic therapy for when their team doesn't cut it in real life.

"[One guy's] favorite team is a Mexican team and one night they got beat by the Houston Dynamo," Kingrea recounted. "He wanted to replay the game, so I played him and he kicked my ass. He wanted

E-SPORTS

"FIFA 13" at Banter Bar [132 Haveyer St. at S. First Street, (718) 599-5200, www.banterbrooklyn.com]. Tues. 7-11 pm. Free.

some justice there."

Roughly a month into the weekly gaming nights, it seems the marriage between a sports bar and video games is a good one. Kingrea said his goal isn't necessar-

ily to cater to gamers or sports fans, but to have anyone walk in the bar and have a great time. The idea, he said, is to get drunk and have fun.

"Once we had an Irish stag party come in and they were all half in the bag when they walked in and the groom sat down and started playing some of the bar regulars," Kingrea said.

"You would have thought it was an actual f----- soccer game, what with all the loud reception, hard tackles, and enthusiastic cheering going on."



Hanoi bites: Nightingale 9's Vietnamese turnover is stuffed with Berkshire pork, wood ear mushrooms, and cellophane noodles. (Pictured right) Pho-style rice noodle soup.

Widening horizons

Seersucker creators go Vietnamese

By Natalie Musumeci
The Brooklyn Paper

Southern cooking isn't too far off from Southeast Asian. The Carroll Gardens restaurateurs behind Smith Street's Southern-American comfort food favorite Seersucker are tackling the vivid flavors of Vietnam in their newest eatery Nightingale 9.

Chef Rob Newton, an Arkansas native, said he learned to use ingredients such as fresh ginger



and coconut milk more than a decade ago in culinary school, and continued to experiment within the cuisine ever since — even taking a month-long journey last summer to Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City to find inspiration for the restaurant's menu, indulging in local fare, shopping at the markets, and learning from homegrown chefs.

"I'm not positioning myself as any kind of an expert, but I have a love and an understanding of the cuisine — that's really all we're

trying to do," he said.

Nightingale 9's chilled fluke and crab salad with fresh coconut (\$13) is inspired from a dish Newton had on the island of Phu Quoc, the chef said. Other dishes featured on the seasonal menu are duck leg with cucumber, basil, and curry dressing (\$15) and caramelized Berkshire pork with rice, imported peppercorn, lemon-grass, and quail eggs (\$15).

Newton said that his soulful southern culinary roots do come out in his cooking, especially when it comes to the use of country ham and leafy greens, but that the food at the Smith Street restaurant with bench-style seating consists primarily of authentic Vietnamese fare.

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Dragging on



A queen is taking the stage. A new, vintage-era themed queer party called the Cat's Meow in Bushwick is bringing into the lime light a star among drag queens Matthew DeLeon, also known as Untitled.

The grand finale winner of the Dragnet competition and a featured performer at the 2012 New York City Pride Parade, DeLeon says he is inspired not only by RuPaul and his drag race brethren, but also by the likes of Nancy Sinatra, Sam Cooke, and the Beastie Boys.

"I mix high art, low art, film," said DeLeon, who is a visual artist, sculptor, and performer. "My look head to toe is relevant to the song."

In pursuing drag perfection, he will appear at the upcoming Cat's Meow at the new Bushwick bar Bizarre. Last month's show focused on the 1920s and 1930s, and this month it's mod.

"There aren't that many opportunities for people to dress up," said Cat's Meow organizer Merrie Cherry. "I wanted to have a party where, each month, people could dress up from a different point in history."

The show will feature seven performers, including Miranda, Di Ba, Candi Cox, Connor Donahue, Rodrigo Chazard, and DJ Sokolowski, but Cherry said Untitled has become the most well-known in the Brooklyn drag scene.

For his upcoming show, DeLeon promised some surprises, including some shocking snippets of film from the 1960s.

"I'm trying to tell a story, not only with the look, but emotionally," he said. "You're acting through it. It's a theatrical experience."

Merrie Cherry presents Cat's Meow at Bizarre (12 Jefferson St. between Broadway and Bushwick Avenue in Bushwick, facebook.com/bizarrebushwick). April 13, 10 pm, free.

— Danielle Furfaro

MUSIC

Kronos kids

A requiem for youth never sounded so good.

The Kronos Quartet, the nearly forty-year-old group popularly known for their performance of the haunting soundtrack to "Requiem For A Dream," is teaming up with the kids of the Brooklyn Youth Chorus, whose warm and bright voices have collaborated with the likes of Philip Glass and Barbra Streisand.

"I can think of no better way to project our hope for the future than to share the stage with these marvelous singers," said Kronos founder and violinist David Harrington.

The string quartet first played with the youth chorus last year when the world-famous string ensemble performed on the anniversary of 9/11 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music. The group needed a chorus for a piece called "Winter is Hard" and hooked up with Brooklyn Youth Chorus for a successful performance.

"We were hired for that based on our reputation and after that developed a very mutual respect and appreciation for each other," said Dianne Berkun-Menaker, the founder and artistic director of the youth chorus.

The Brooklyn Youth Chorus, formed in 1992, gives kids an opportunity to practice their voice on pieces by some of the most well-known contemporary composers, as well as the classics. The show with Kronos, which is a gala and benefit concert for the youth organization, will include works by Shara Worden of My Brightest Diamond, Reed Parry of Arcade Fire and Bryce Dessner of the National.

Kronos Quartet and Brooklyn Youth Chorus at Roulette [509 Atlantic Ave. at Third Avenue in Boerum Hill, (917) 267-0363, roulette.org]. May 7, 8 pm, \$40. Concert and the pre-show benefit gala at the Green Building [452 Union St. at Bond Street in Gowanus, (718) 243-9447, www.brooklynouthchorus.org]. 5:30 pm, \$375.

— Danielle Furfaro



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Keynote Speaker

Jeanine Ramirez

Brooklyn Reporter





Jeanine Ramirez joined NY1 News in October 1996 and covers Brooklyn's schools, politics, religions and neighborhoods. She also is the lead reporter on many Latino issues. A native Brooklynite, Ramirez majored in communications both at Brooklyn Technical High School and Fordham University.

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WHERE TO GO

EDITORS' PICKS

FRIDAY
April 12



Japanese cult
A new monthly night of free screenings is presenting two Japanese cult favorites. First, Kinji Fukasaku's "Battle Royal" tells the bloody story of a government-enforced game where children fight to the death. Second, Shinya Tsukamoto's "Tetsuo: The Iron Man," is a beautiful black and white film that portrays a stylized cyberpunk world where man, machine, and monsters converge.
8 pm at Videology [308 Bedford Ave. at S. First Street in Williamsburg, (718) 782-3468, www.videology.info]. Free

SATURDAY
April 13



Body art
What do your tattoos mean? Journalist and author of "Bodies of Subversion: A Secret History of Women and Tattoo" Margot Mifflin and founder of needle-sandsins.com Marisa Kakoulas will present photos and hold a discussion on women's tattooing. The talk will cover topics of sexuality, fashion, fine arts, and feminism.
2 pm at Brooklyn Museum [200 Eastern Pkwy. at Washington Avenue in Prospect Heights, (718) 638-5000, www.brooklynmuseum.org]. \$12 suggested donation.

SUNDAY
April 14



Traveling musician
Violinist Jennifer Curtis is a featured artist this month for best new talents in classical music and she's perfect for the South Slope music venue Barbes, known for its international vibe. Curtis has traveled world, from Venezuela to New York City, garnering an eclectic taste in music.
7 pm at Cafe Barbes [376 Ninth St. between Sixth and Seventh avenues in Park Slope (347) 422-0248, barbesbrooklyn.com]. \$10.

MONDAY
April 15

Brooklyn Dodgers
It's a sports movie, a civil rights movie, and a movie about one of the borough's most beloved heroes. "42," the story of Jackie Robinson's rise to fame as the first African-American player to break the color line in Major League Baseball is opening this weekend. Bound to be a glorifying film about an already revered figure in American history.
9:10 pm at BAM Rose Cinemas [30 Lafayette Ave., between St. Felix Street and Ashland Place in Fort Greene, (718) 636-4100, bam.org]. \$13.



TUESDAY
April 16



Priceless
Rapper Sean Price has left no doubt in anyone's mind of his lyrical skills. Price is an old school artist who's attracting more than a cult following in a rap game that's dominated by young performers. His most recent album is called "Mic Tyson," and he addresses the youthful competition in the lines "Young dummies can't spar / No life, my flow tight, like your pants are."
8:30 at Glasslands [289 Kent Ave. between S. First and S. Second streets, www.theglasslands.com]. \$3 with rsvp.

NINE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

FRI, APRIL 12

DANCE AND CHINESE LANGUAGE CLASSES: The Laurel Project is New York City's premiere Chinese enrichment program. \$405/season. 3:45-5:45pm. Spoke the Hub [748 Union St.; Near Sixth Avenue in Park Slope], www.laurelproject.com.

CONCERT, "THE GATHERING": Two performances by Fulbright Scholar-in-Residence Vaneshran Arumugam and colleagues. Free. 7:30 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200], https://www.sfc.edu.

MUSIC, ELECTRONIC TRUMPET, SYNTHS: Don't miss your chance to see Ben Neill, inventor of the mutant trumpet, a hybrid electro-acoustic instrument, and diNMachine, an electronic-experimental-rock band from New York at the Firehouse Space. \$5/10. 8 pm. The Firehouse Space [246 Frost St., (917) 609-0884], thefirehousespace.org.

MUSIC, BAND WITH A BANJO: Don't miss your chance to see Cabinet and Hot Dat At The Zool. 11:55 pm. Knitting Factory [361 Metropolitan Ave. at Havemeyer Street in Williamsburg, (347) 529-6696], ny.knittingfactory.com.

SAT, APRIL 13

CRAFT FAIR: Independent artists and designers featuring handmade treasures, stationery, textiles, artisanal food, jewelry and more. Free. 11 am-6 pm. PS 9 [80 Underhill Ave. between St. Mark's Avenue and Bergen Street in Prospect Heights], www.prospectheightscraftfair.com.

FOOD, NEW CAFE OPENING: Teaffee is a family-run Tea and Coffee bar selling coffee beans, rare loose-leaf teas, and accessories. We also offer fantastic signature drinks along with Coffee & Tea-infused Ice Cream. None. Teaffee [517 Court St. in Carroll Gardens, (718) 522-4410], teaffee.com.

WORKSHOP, FREE MARTIAL ARTS AND CROSSFIT CLASSES: Free classes all day from 10 am to 4 pm. Free. 10 am. Class One Mixed Martial Arts and CrossFit [85 4th ave., (718) 230-3530], www.c1mma.com.

WORKSHOP, EARTH DAY EXPO: Habana Outpost, New York's first solar powered restaurant, is hosting an Earth Day expo! Free. noon-5 pm. Habana Outpost [757 Fulton St. at S. Portland Avenue in Fort Greene, (718) 858-9500], www.ecoeatery.com.

"THE TALES OF ANANSI": African inspired tale of Anansi the trickster. \$7. 2 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd., between Amersfort Place and Kenilworth Place in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

NATIONAL GRID EARTH DAY CELEBRATION: Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College (BCBC) commemorates Earth Day with its annual National Grid Earth Day Celebration, an interactive family event featuring a storytelling concert by the environmental performance group Bash the Trash. Free. 3 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd., between Amersfort Place and Kenilworth Place in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

SUN, APRIL 14

HISTORY WORKSHOP: From Ice-age glaciers to the American Revolution - learn who each left its mark on New York City. Free. 1 pm. Prospect Park Audubon Center [Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue in Prospect Park, (718) 287-3400], www.prospectpark.org/audubon.

"FIDDLER ON THE ROOF": A rousing version of this heartwarming play of humor, love and tradition. \$36-\$45. 3 pm. Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts at Brooklyn College [2900 Campus Rd., between Amersfort Place and Kenilworth Place in Midwood, (718) 951-4500], www.brooklyncenteronline.org.

MON, APRIL 15

POETRY READING: Seniors from the citizen writing class share their selections of poems and prose. Free with general admission. 12:30-2 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200], https://www.sfc.edu.

WORKSHOP, WINE AND FOOD PAIRING: Brooklyn Winery will introduce you to the basic interactions you should consider when matching food and wine and taste different styles of wine. \$35. 8 pm. Brooklyn Winery [213 N. Eighth St., (347) 763-1506], bkwinery.com/wine-and-food-pairing-basics/2696.

TUES, APRIL 16

READING, "NEW YORK A LA CART": Authors Alexandra Penfold and Siobhan Wallace share recipes and stories from New York City's food trucks. RSVP requested. Free. 7-9 pm. PowerHouse Arena [37 Main St. at Water Street in DUMBO, (718) 666-3049], www.powerhousearena.com.

WED, APRIL 17

LECTURE, "TRANSATLANTIC," "LET THE GREAT WORLD SPIN": Novelist Colum McCann discusses his books. Free. 4:30-6 pm. St. Francis College [180 Remsen St., between Court and Clinton streets in Brooklyn Heights, (718) 489-5200], https://www.sfc.edu.

MUSIC, HORN ROCK BAND: Holy Ghost Tent Revival, a 6-piece horn-driven rock band from Greensboro, NC. Also playing are the Hoots and Hellmouth, Town Hall. \$8. 8 pm. Brooklyn Bowl [61 Wythe Ave. between N. 11th and N. 12th streets in Williamsburg, (718) 963-3369], www.brooklynbowl.com.

THURS, APRIL 18

READING, HAITIAN COASTAL WILD LIFE: Join HCX for a special book talk and signing for "Haiti from Below," a book that captures the colorful underwater life along the northern coast of Haiti in over 100 stunning photos. Free. 6-9 pm. Five Myles Gallery [558 St. Johns Place in Crown Heights, (347) 565-4429], haiticulturalx.org.

READING, FUNNY PAGES: Brooklyn Reading Works presents "Funny Pages," curated by Marian Fontana. Snacks and drinks provided. \$5 Suggested Donation. 8 pm. The Old Stone House [336 3rd St. Between 4th and 5th avenues in Park Slope, (718) 768-3195], www.theoldstonehouse.org.

MUSIC, DANCEY POP: This concert is for fans of disco. Free. 10 pm. The Way Station [683 Washington Ave. between St. Marks Avenue and Prospect Place in Prospect Heights, (718) 627-4949], www.waystationbk.com.

FRI, APRIL 19

WRITE OUTSIDE THE LINES: Cathy Altman helps children and teens Sponsored by Old First Nursery School. Free. 5:30 pm. Barnes and Noble [267 Seventh Ave. at 6th Street in Park Slope, (718) 832-9066], barnesandnoble.com.

MUSIC, ANNUAL BROOKLYN FOLK FESTIVAL: Down Home Radio Show Host Eli Smith and The Fabulous Jalopy Theatre are proud to announce the 5th Annual Brooklyn Folk Festival \$15. 7 pm. Bell House [149 Seventh St. at Third Avenue in Gowanus, (718) 643-6510], www.thebellhouseyny.com.

MUSIC, RABBI DARKSIDE: "Prospect Avenue" is the new solo album from emcee Rabbi Darkside, featuring stories of teaching, learning and evolving in new millennium Brooklyn. See the Rabbi drop the truth. \$10. 8 pm. Littlefield [622 Degraw St. between Fourth and Fifth avenues in Gowanus, (718) 855-3388], www.littlefieldnyc.com.

SAT, APRIL 20

MUSIC, SONGS, CARTOONS, KARAOKE: An hour-long program of animated videos presented by Cartune Xprez, a video label / road-show / cartoon gang. With an opening performance by experimental singer-songwriter Manett and a midi-karaoke party afterward. \$7. 8 pm. LaunchPad [721 Franklin Ave. in Crown Heights, (646) 494-7211], brooklynlaunchpad.org.



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Rejects in a half shell

A reading of a Ninja Turtle script is so bad, it's good

By Colin Mixson
The Brooklyn Paper

It was the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles reboot that was so laugh-out-loud terrible—even Michael Bay wouldn't make a movie out of it.

A dramatic reading of the famously rejected script at a Union Hall show will reveal exactly how Hollywood planned on destroying the beloved story of heroes in a half shell.

"Michael Bay is still going to produce a Ninja Turtles

movie, but this draft of the script was leaked online, and drew tremendous ire from fans who care about the franchise," said host Rob Blatt. "I want to get it out there to show just how bad this movie was going to be."

Though based on a Saturday morning cartoon about crime-fighting turtles, a Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles movie must stand on four fundamental plot points, each of which are absolutely essential to the franchise.

READING

Michael Bay's Ninja Turtles at Union Hall (702 Union St. at Fifth Avenue in Park Slope, (718) 638-4400, www.unionhallny.com). April 22, 8 pm, \$6.

First, everyone knows the Ninja Turtles are teenagers. Second, they're mutants—probably through contact with green ooze. Third, they are trained by a giant bipedal rat in the art of ninjutsu, and finally, and most importantly,

they are turtles.

But the famously shirked script omits two of these four essentials, turning the beloved turtle mutants into neither reptiles nor freaks of nature—but aliens.

You know, the other kind of little green men.

"The fun part of this is that they don't know they're aliens until late in the movie," Blatt said. "Like the rest of us they assume they're mutants and the back story starts the same way, but it turns out they're aliens and Splinter has been hiding this from them their entire lives."

Why Master Splinter, why!

But the travesty doesn't end there.

"It's also full of bad, pop-culture jokes," said Blatt. "There's even a 'Kung Fu Panda' joke, but most of the humor in the script comes from just how bad it is. It's 125-pages of laugh out loud terrible. This script ruins pretty much everything you enjoyed about the Ninja Turtles."

The script's lowest point is when the hockey-masked vigilante Casey Jones rips apart a colorful tapestry into strips

of blue, green, red, and orange to assign the turtles their trademark colors—just so he can tell them apart.

"I read that, and I was like, I guess nothing matters anymore," said a clearly shaken Blatt.

Blatt hopes that the audience will find the reading enjoyable, the same way TV audiences have adored productions like, "Mystery Science Theater 3000," and its particular brand of ridicule-based humor.

Beyond entertainment, however, Blatt says there's a meaningful message to the show.


"Greed knows no bounds," he said. "With Battleship and Transformers, they all follow the same pattern of buying a franchise and ruining it. There was a joke that after battleship there's going to be a Hungry Hungry Hippos movie where they're aliens, and it just turns out that the next step was ruining the Ninja Turtles."



Ninja terrible: Rob Blatt will narrate "Michael Bay's Ninja Turtles," a laugh-out-loud reboot of the Ninja Turtles franchise, at Union Hall later this month.

BAR SCRAWL By Bill Roundy

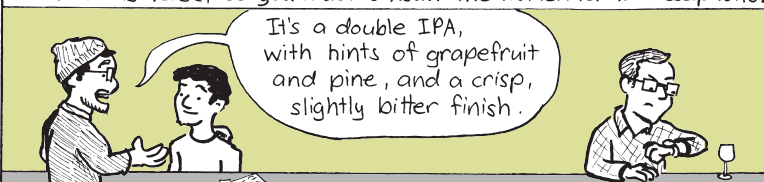
Torst in Greenpoint is a minimalist mecca for beer geeks.



21 super-high-tech* beer taps

*Each w/ temperature + nitrogen controls.

The menu is terse, so you must consult the bartender for descriptions.



It's a double IPA, with hints of grapefruit and pine, and a crisp, slightly bitter finish.

These consultations can take a while.

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\$6 for 8 ounces!?

So I have mixed feelings.



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Torst [615 Manhattan Ave. between Nassau and Driggs avenues in Greenpoint, (718) 389-6034. www.torstnyc.com]. Open Sun.–Wed., noon–midnight; Thu.–Sat., noon–4 am.



San Fran import: Assistant manager Jonathan Ontiveros at the new Dos Toros in Williamsburg serves up the Bay Area Mexican food West Coasters crave, such as this carne asada quesadilla.

Toros, toros, toros

It's Mexican done the Bay Area way

By Will Levitt
for The Brooklyn Paper

DINING

The Brooklyn food mantra is local, but the latest and greatest in Williamsburg shows another angle on the culinary culture of the borough: imports.

Hailing from San Francisco, brothers Leo and Oliver Kremer felt the lack of Bay Area-style taquerias in New York and set out to fill the void with Dos Toros.

Their latest location is a small storefront on Bedford Ave., in Williamsburg, offering a small but well thought out selection of Mexican classics, not the least of which is a carne asada quesadilla (\$7.12) that will change the way you think of the quesadilla.

Dos Toros [189 Bedford Ave. between N. Sixth and N. Seventh streets, (212) 677-7300, www.dostoros.com].

Instead of dry and dripping with a cheap cheese filling, this quesadilla focuses on the quality and flavor of each ingredient, served with pleasing presentation.

The best part of it all is a flour tortilla from Tortilleria Nixtamal in Queens, griddled in corn oil. Slightly charred, the smoky aroma of the tortilla lets you know that this is not just any other tortilla even before you take your first bite. When

you do, you'll taste tender, juicy steak and a lively combination of Monterey Jack cheese, salsa, sour cream, hot sauce, and guacamole (the guacamole is optional, but at \$0.92, it's a steal). Each component speaks for itself, all fresh and well seasoned, and each supersedes expectations for a taco joint.

Everything at Dos Toros fits nicely into the Brooklyn food ethos: many products are locally sourced, there are reclaimed wood countertops, biodegradable utensils, and it offers a good price point for real value. But when it comes to Mexican food with a San Franciscan accent, the quesadilla at Dos Toros proves the Bay Area has much to offer to the Brooklyn scene.



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Free grilled cheese

By **Natalie Musumeci**
The Brooklyn Paper

It's the best thing since sliced bread!

Brooklyn Slate Company will celebrate the opening of its first storefront on Saturday by handing out free grilled cheese sandwiches to all visitors.

Sean Tice and Kristy Hadeka decided to move their four-year-old company, which manufactures natural slate boards for coasters and cheese and charcuterie presentation, out of its warehouse and into the new Red Hook showroom so customers will have a rock-solid place to check out their slabs.



Photo by Bess Adler

Kristy Hadeka and Sean Tice, founders of Brooklyn Slate Company, will be dishing out complimentary grilled cheeses on April 13.

"In the past chefs and other customers would stop by the warehouse, and we realized we needed a more welcoming place for visitors to stop by," said Tice of Greenpoint, who added that the new shop will host events and classes that involve food plating and cheese pairing.

Tice said he hopes to give away as much grilled cheese as he can at the opening of the shop, which comes in the midst of National Grilled Cheese Month and one day after National Grilled Cheese Day.

"Cheese, or at least serving cheese, is central to what we create as a company, so we thought grilled cheeses would be a great fit," said Tice, who added that all gooey sandwiches will be made with bread from Roberta's in Bushwick and domestic cheddar.

Hungry passersby will have their choice of a classic grilled cheese or one with pickles from Rick's Picks. A cheesy sandwich with homemade onion jam will also be up for the taking.

"We just tasted all the options," said Tice, whose company sources its stone from Hadeck's family's third-generation quarry upstate. "They're spot on."

Free grilled cheeses for Brooklyn Slate Company's grand opening [305 Van Brunt St. between King and Pioneer streets in Red Hook, www.brooklynslate.com]. April 13, 12 pm to 4 pm.

nym MONTHLY HEALTH TIPS from New York Methodist Hospital

Gynecologic Oncologists The Ovarian Cancer Specialists

By **Katherine Economos, M.D., Director of Gynecologic Oncology**
New York Methodist Hospital

When it comes to gynecologic cancer—malignancies of the ovaries, uterus, cervix, or vulva—options for treatment are improving. There are new medicines and new therapies available and new approaches to surgical procedures as well. However, step one in the battle against cancer is finding the right specialist to help you confront the disease.

Gynecologic oncologists are the doctors who focus on cancers of the female reproductive system. In the case of ovarian cancer—the most dangerous gynecologic cancer and the second-most common—working with a gynecologic oncologist can have a very beneficial impact on a patient's prognosis, with the difference often measured in years.

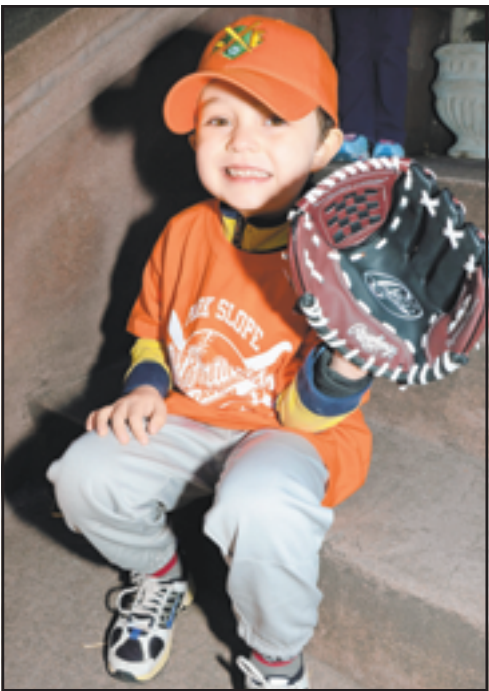
Yet, a new study from the University of California, Irvine Medical Center has shown that, nationwide, far too few women with ovarian cancer are treated by a gynecologic oncologist. Despite major advances in gynecologic oncology in the past decade, almost two-thirds of patients fail to receive adequate care and many miss out on treatments that might add years to their lives.

The new study recognizes that the optimal treatment for ovarian cancer is surgery performed by a gynecologic oncologist, with chemotherapy and radiation sometimes utilized help keep the disease in check. The type and extent of a

surgical procedure depends primarily on how far the cancer has spread. Utilizing traditional, minimally invasive, or even sophisticated robotic surgery, a gynecologic oncologist removes the diseased organ or organs. In the case of more advanced malignancies, a debulking procedure may be performed to remove as much of the tumor as possible. Depending on the individual case, debulking can be a very extensive surgery, requiring the careful resection (removal of a part) of nearby organs that have been affected by the disease.

There are several reasons why some women forgo a gynecologic oncologist for treatment of ovarian cancer. Sometimes, it is because they are not aware that the specialty exists, but often it has to do with accessibility; at least one state in the U.S. has no practicing gynecologic oncologists at all.

However, there are still roughly 1,000 gynecologic oncologists in this country, including almost 60 gynecologic oncologists in New York City alone. Lives should not be cut short because patients have not found their way to the right specialist. Whether she lives in California, Kansas or Carroll Gardens—if a woman is confronting ovarian cancer, a gynecologic oncologist should be managing her care. She should have the best chance of success in her fight to lead the long, happy life she deserves.



Photos by Elizabeth Graham

Play ball!

(Left) Four-year-old Charlie Sockey showed off his brand-new mitt before the annual Prospect Park Baseball Association Opening Day Parade on Saturday. (Above) Baseball fans Tristan Davis and Christopher Joseph, both 5-years-old, marched through the streets of Park Slope.

More Di Fara's Full menu returns after a decade

By **Colin Mixson**
The Brooklyn Paper

Di Fara's much-missed full menu will return after a decade-long hiatus.

Di Fara's Pizza announced it will expand the delicious Italian enterprise by opening a takeout joint just a few doors down from the longtime Avenue J pizza Mecca, which will restore long-lost menu items that were cut to make room for the hordes of hungry pizza fans who made the lines at Di Fara's as legendary as the pies.

The takeout joint at 1012 E. 15th St. will debut in the next few weeks with all the original menu items—except Italian ices, which will be included along with some fresh additions after the new spot has a chance to get on its feet.

"My siblings and I do a lot of cooking at home, so we've developed some new meals that will be added in the future," said Margaret DeMarco, daughter of legendary pizzeria and Di Fara's owner Dom DeMarco. "It'll probably begin with just our old Italian menu."



Photo by Elizabeth Graham

Margaret DeMarco and her brother Harry will soon open the MD Kitchen on E. 15th Street.

REYNOSO...

Continued from page 1 of his campaign blasting Lopez (D–Williamsburg), even though the influential pol, who lost his gig as borough Democratic party boss along with all of the perks of Albany seniority after his capitol peers punished him for sexually harassing staffers, has not yet announced his candidacy or filed paperwork for a run.

"Vito has been stripped of all his power in the state and he has nothing to do," said Reynoso, who is vying for the seat his mentor — longtime Lopez critic Diana Reyna (D–Williamsburg) — will vacate at the end of the year due to term limits. "He has embarrassed himself and

this is his last-ditch effort to salvage something."

Rumors of a Lopez run in the 34th district, spanning Williamsburg, Bushwick, and a section of Ridgewood, Queens, reached terminal velocity this week when someone filed a campaign disclosure account with the state under the name Vito Lopez for City Council.

That was enough to turn a press conference announcing Reynoso's endorsement by the National Organization for Women on the steps of Brooklyn Borough hall into an all-out attack on Lopez.

"His egregious behavior makes it clear that he is not fit to hold office," said Sonia Ossorio, president of NOW's

New York City chapter.

Lopez did not respond to requests for comment, but insiders say running for the seat is a win-win for the assemblyman. If he loses, he still gets to keep the post he has held in Albany for 27 years. If he emerges victorious, he will swap his state paycheck of \$79,500 — now docked of all of the perks of seniority due to the ethics scandal — for a council salary of \$112,500, while nixing all of those lengthy trips to Albany as he deals with health woes.

Reynoso, 29, started his career in politics while he was in college at Le Moyne, where he founded the black political group Brothers On A New Direction. When he returned to Williamsburg after school, he became Reyna's chief of staff.

In the past couple of

months, Reynoso has racked up big endorsements from Council speaker and mayoral hopeful Christine Quinn, Public Advocate and mayoral candidate Bill de Blasio, NOW, the Hotel and Motel Trades Council, and the United Federation of Teachers — but those public displays of approval only matter so much in a district where Lopez remains beloved, according to borough politico Hank Sheinkopf.

"Endorsements are wonderful, but voters win races,"

said Sheinkopf, who added that many residents of low-income housing units built with the help of Lopez and his affiliated non-profits will stay loyal to the assemblyman. "Many people who are accused of corruption have gone on to have long careers in politics."

Other hopefuls in the race to replace Reyna include housing activist and Lopez ally Maritza Davila, who lost her race for the seat four years ago, and teacher Tommy Torres.

RIDGE...

Continued from page 1

has killed one woman and hospitalized another in the past month.

"We are not only tired of dodging reckless drivers — we are angry that our quality of life is impacted by the bad behavior of others," said Barbara Cassidy, one of the speakers at the demonstration. "Reckless driving is a crime and it must be treated as such."

But Golden's office argued that speed cameras can't be trusted. Aide Ray Riley pointed to a recent incident in Baltimore, Md. where one of the devices fined a stationary vehicle, and a case in Ohio where a judge banned them in a small town after they issued thousands of frivolous tickets — though he said he knew of no scientific study of the cameras' accuracy. Golden said he wouldn't even think about supporting the devices in New York City unless he saw conclusive evidence of their effectiveness and precision.

"If we can prove that the technology is sound, and document unequivocally that it will reduce speeding and fatalities, that would provide reason to consider the possibility of speed camera legislation," said Golden.

But the pol said he agreed traffic safety is a problem, and repeated his call for the city to hire more cops to combat traffic violations. He also promised to propose a new law that would reduce the speed limit to 20 miles an hour and install new traffic lights, speed bumps, and stop signs near New York City

schools.

Cassidy rejected Golden's argument for more police, saying that new cops cost too much money and don't stop speeders.

"We would welcome law enforcement to curb speeding. It doesn't exist now," Cassidy said. "But where does he plan to get money for more officers?"

Golden is a former police officer, and has long received endorsements and campaign contributions from the Patrolmen's Benevolent Association — the union representing uniformed officers — which has come out against speed cameras.

But the pilot program Golden has opposed in the State Senate would only bring cameras to a handful of areas near schools. None of the recent accidents in Bay Ridge occurred in school zones, and police said there was no evidence of speeding in the collision that killed a woman crossing mid-block near the corner of 86th Street and Fourth Avenue on April 2.

"It looks like it was just an accident," the spokeswoman said.

Bay Ridge Advocates for Keeping Everybody Safe also supports another controversial anti-speeding plan — the city's "re-envisioning" of Fourth Avenue, which would pare the thoroughfare down to one lane in each direction between 84th Street and Ovington Avenue, and raise a concrete pedestrian island on the south side of the 86th Street and Fourth Avenue intersection.

BOWIE...

Continued from page 1

there is neighborhood support for such a move, which might be the hardest part of her new job.

"I'd like to improve our communications," said Bowie, who joined the organization's board in 2004.

"I'd like to see our membership increase."

To that end, Bowie is decentralizing the association's communication efforts, focusing on social media like Facebook and Twitter to "get the short word out on what we're doing."

She used those tools to organize community meet-ups at hangouts like Vineapple Cafe.

No one showed up to the first meeting at the end of March, but she is hoping that changes.

"I know some people think we're about the buildings, but Brooklyn Heights Association is about the people," she said.

"We try to look at what the city is doing and nudge or push them toward what is better," she added.

The Bloomington, Ind., native has lived in Brooklyn since 1986 and Brooklyn Heights since 1988.

She got involved with the Brooklyn Heights Association until 15 years ago when she became annoyed by a Home Depot shopping cart chained nearby her home. After calling police, the fire department, and sanitation — these were the days before 311 — Bowie finally phoned Brooklyn Heights Association executive director extraordinaire Judy Stanton.

Stanton didn't remove the cart (it disappeared a while later), but her dry sense of humor and verve made an impression on Bowie.

"She's such an asset," Bowie said about Stanton. "She knows everyone and everything."

TWO WAYS TO LOVE

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